

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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USLO PEKING

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SUBJ: MARCH 2-5 VISIT TO SRI LANKA OF SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM (SRV) PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG

1. FOLLOWING ARE FULL TEXTS OF SPEECHES DELIVERED BY PRESIDENT
JAYEWARDENE AND PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG AT 3 MARCH
LUNCHEON;

2. THE PRESIDENT, J.R. JAYEWARDENE, SAID: QUOTE
IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO BE THE HOST TO THE PRIME MINI-
STER OF OUR FRIENDLY COUNTRY VIETNAM. THIS IS NOT YOUR FIRST
VISIT TO THIS COUNTRY. YOU CAME FOR THE NON-ALIGNED CONFER-
ENCE; BUT THIS IS THE FIRST VISIT YOU ARE PAYING TO OUR COUNTRY
AS AN HONOURED GUEST; AND THIS IS THE FIRST VISIT THE HEAD OF
A GOVERNMENT IS MAKING TO OUR COUNTRY AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION
OF JULY, 1977.

3. WE WELCOME YOUR VISIT FOR SEVERAL REASONS. YOU ARE A
LEADER OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, AND WITHOUT ASKING FOR IT
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I HAVE BECOME THE LEADER OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. YOU
ARE THE LEADER OF A COUNTRY WITH MANY SIMILARITIES TO OUR OWN.
YOU ARE AN ANCIENT NATION. YOU WERE UNDER FOREIGN RULE FOR
ALMOST 100 YEARS. WE WERE UNDER FOREIGN RULE FOR 400 YEARS,
NOT THE WHOLE NATION BUT A LARGE PORTION OF OUR NATION. THE
MAJORITY OF YOUR COUNTRY FOLLOW THE BUDDHIST RELIGION; SO DO
OURS. YOU HAVE A BIT OF "FRENCH POLISH"; WE HAVE BEEN

PAINTED WITH THE BRITISH VARIETY. YOU HAD A BLOODY STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM; YOU WON THE ADMIRATION OF THE WHOLE WORLD. TILL 1848, OUR STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM WAS ALSO VIOLENT.

4. TILL 1815 WE PRESERVED OUR FREEDOM SOMEWHERE OR OTHER. IN 1815, WITH THE CONSENT OF OUR PEOPLE, WE ACCEPTED THE BRITISH MONARCH AS OUR RULER. AFTER THAT, IN 1818 AND 1848 THERE WERE TWO REBELLIONS. IN 1948, WE REGAINED OUR FREEDOM BY CONSTITUTIONAL AND NON-VIOLENT MEANS. WE ARE THEREFORE, NOW TWO FREE COUNTRIES.

5. THERE IS A SIMILARITY BETWEEN YOUR LIFE AND MY OWN. BOTH OF US WERE BORN IN 1906. YOUR FATHER WAS THE SECRETARY TO A KING OF THE AREA, AND HE AND HIS KING HAD TO RESIGN OWING TO THEIR PART IN THE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT. IN 1918, MY FATHER MOVED A RESOLUTION AND THE NATIONAL CONGRESS WAS FOUNDED, AN ORGANISATION WHICH LED OUR MOVEMENT TO FREEDOM. YOU TOOK PART IN STRIKES AND WAS SENT TO JAIL. I TOOK PART IN STRIKES BUT I WAS NOT SENT TO JAIL. WHEN MY FATHER WAS A JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT AND HE SAT ON THE BENCH, I USED TO TAKE HIS CAR AND HELP THE STRIKERS OF WHICH MR. PREMADASA WAS A LEADER UNDER MR. GOONESINGHE. YOU BECAME MINISTER OF FINANCE; SO DID I. WE KNOW THE DIFFICULTIES OF RUNNING THE COUNTRY WHEN THERE IS VERY LITTLE MONEY. YOU TOOK PART IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN 1954. WHILE YOU WERE SITTING IN GENEVA, I WAS SITTING IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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HON. SRI JOHN KOTELAWELA WAS THEN PRIME MINISTER AND THERE WAS A UNP GOVERNMENT IN 1954. THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE HE SUMMONED CONSISTED OF PAKISTAN, INDIA, BURMA, INDONESIA AND SRI LANKA. I WAS A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION AS LEADER OF THE HOUSE. ONE OF THE MATTERS WE DISCUSSED WAS THE WAR IN INDOSINCHINA, WHEN YOU WERE HAVING AN ARMED STRUGGLE WITH THE FRENCH. WE UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDED TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE THAT VIETNAM SHOULD BE MADE FREE; THAT THE FRENCH SHOULD RECOGNISE THE SOVEREIGNTY OF VIETNAM AND THE GOVERNMENT LED BY HO CHI MINH THAT THE BIG POWERS SHOULD KEEP OUT OF THE CONFLICT; THAT THERE SHOULD BE A CEASE-FIRE AND THAT THERE SHOULD BE A CONFERENCE WITH FRENCH AND LAOS, CAMBODIA, COCHIN CHINA, TONKIN AND ANNAM. TONKIN, COCHIN CHINA AND ANNAM NOW ARE VIETNAM. WE TELEGRAPHED TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE THAT THIS WAS THE VIEW OF THE LEADERS OF ASIA AND MR. ANTHONY EDEN, FOREIGN SECRETARY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, IN HIS BIOGRAPHY HAS STATED THAT THE VIEWS OF THE COLOMBO POWERS WERE VERY USEFUL IN EFFECTING CEASE-FIRE AND IN SECURING PEACE AND AN END TO THE FRENCH-VIETNAMESE WAR. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, OTHER EVENTS OCCURRED AND ANOTHER WAR BEGAN WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST HO CHI MINH.

6. I SAID THERE WERE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND YOUR COUNTRY, AND YOURSELF AND MYSELF. YOU WERE THE PRIME MINISTER OF HO CHI MINH'S GOVERNMENT. YOU WERE THE PRIME MINISTER IN THE FREE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM I BECAME THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE FREE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA IN 1977. NOW, OF COURSE I AM THE PRESIDENT. THAT IS ANOTHER STORY.

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7. WE WON THE LAST ELECTION BY AN UNPRECEDENTED MAJORITY, WINNING 141 OUT OF 168 SEATS - A 5/6THS MAJORITY - UNPRECEDENTED IN THE HISTORY OF DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS. WE WERE IN THE OPPOSITION AND THEREFORE UNABLE TO RIG THE ELECTION. WE WENT TO THE ELECTION ON OUR MANIFESTO SEEKING TO CREATE A FREE AND JUST SOCIETY. WE HAVE ACHIEVED THE FIRST PART OF OUR PROGRAMME. VERY FEW COUNTRIES IN THE WOLD HAVE MORE DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS THAN WE HAVE. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS THE PEOPLE HAVE NOT GOT. ALL THE VICIOUS LAWS THAT EXISTED WHEN YOU CAME TO THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE DO NOT EXIST TODAY. NOBODY CAN BE IMPRISONED FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS WITHOUT TRIAL. THE PUBLIC SECURITY ACT AND EMERGENCY LAWS CANNOT BE ENACTED WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF PARLIAMENT. WHEN UNDER THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT WE SAW RULED FOR 5 OR 6 YEARS UNDER EMERGENCY LAWS, PARLIAMENT WAS UNABLE TO DEBATE IT EVEN FOR ONE HOUR. WE HAVE PERMITTED FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, FREEDOM OF MEETINGS AND FREEDOM OF ELECTIONS, AS WELL AS FREEDOM OF THE OPPOSITION AND THE LIVING SYMBOL OF THE OPPOSITION, WHO IS THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION HAS JOINED YOU AT LUNCH TODAY. I HOPE AND TRUST THAT THESE FREEDOMS WE WILL

BE ABLE TO PRESERVE.

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8. TO CREATE A JUST SOCIETY IS MOST DIFFICULT. IT IS NOT ONLY SOCIAL EQUALITY BUT ALSO ECONOMIC FREEDOM. WE SEEK TO IMPLEMENT THE SOCIALIST PROGRAMME WHERE MAN DOES NOT EXPLOIT MAN AND THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND EXCHANGE BELONG TO THE PEOPLE. IN SRI LANKA, DURING THE LAST 30 YEARS A PROGRAMME OF SOCIALISM HAS BEEN ADOPTED AND, WHICH WAS THE MAIN MEANS OF PRODUCTION, WAS MADE AVAILABLE ONLY TO THE PEASANTS AND THE SMALL LAND OWNERS BY OUR GOVERNMENT IN 1931. THE OTHER GOVERNMENTS HAVE TAKEN OVER LANDS THAT BELONGED TO BIG LAND OWNERS AND NO ONE TODAY CAN OWN MORE THAN 50 ACRES. THAT LAW WE WILL FOLLOW AND IMPLEMENT OURSELVES.

9. THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION HAVE BEEN NATIONALISED; ESSENTIAL MEANS OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS HAVE BEEN NATIONALISED. ALL THAT DURING THE 30 YEARS OF OUR FREEDOM CAN BE CALLED SOCIALIST LEGISLATION BROUGHT ABOUT BY OUR GOVERNMENT AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS, WE WILL NOT CHANGE. BUT SOCIALISM MEANS EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT. IF THERE IS CORRUPTION, IF THERE IS INEFFICIENCY, IF THERE IS INDISCIPLINE, SOCIALISM OR CAPITALISM WILL FAIL TO DELIVER THE GOODS. WE, THEREFORE, THROUGH OUR VARIOUS MEASURES, ARE SEEKING TO CREATE A JUST SOCIETY. THAT IS WHY WE CALL OURSELVES A DEMOCRATIC, SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT. IT WILL TAKE A LONG TIME FOR US TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL. IT MAY BE POSSIBLE DURING THE SIX YEARS OF OUR TERM OF OFFICE TO HOPE AT LEAST TO LAY THE FOUNDATION OF THAT SOCIETY. WE HAVE MADE A BEGINNING. WE ARE HAPPY THAT DURING THAT BEGINNING YOU WHO REPRESENT THE FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE OF VIETNAM WHOSE HEROIC STRUGGLE, LOVE OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE WON THE ADMIRATION OF THE WORLD HAVE VISITED US. IN OUR PART OF THE COUNTRY, TOO, EVERY POLITICAL PARTY AND EVERY GOVERNMENT WAS ON YOUR SIDE. WE HOPE THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES, BOUND BY THE BONDS I HAVE MENTIONED, WILL ADVANCE TOGETHER TO THE

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PROSPERITY OF OUR PEOPLE AND THE PEACE OF THE WORLD.

10. I AM ONE WHO IS DEDICATED TO THE PRINCIPLE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE. LABOR THE USE OF ARMS. VIOLENCE ACHIEVES NOTHING. VICTORY ACHIEVED BY VIOLENCE DOES NOT LAST LONG. THE WORDS OF PEACE OF BUDDHA AND CHRIST HAVE LASTED 2,500 YEARS AND STILL THEY ARE CAPABLE OF CREATING REVOLUTIONS IN THE MINDS OF MEN.

11. I TRUST THEREFORE, THAT YOUR COUNTRY WILL JOIN US FIRSTLY
IN PREACHING TO THE WORLD COMPLETE DISARMAMENT AND SECONDLY,
STAGE BY STAGE IN SEEKING TO IMPLEMENT THAT.

12. MR. PRIME MINISTER, MAY I ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE AND
GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA PROPOSE, A TOAST TO HIS EXCELLENCY
THONG DUC THANY, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET-
NAM, TO THE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS OF YOUR EXCELLENCY, TO THE
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM,
TO THE FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST RE-
PUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF SRI LANKA.

UNQUOTE.

13. PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG SAID: QUOTE
THE WORDS OF CORDIALITY THAT MR. PRESIDENT HAS JUST EXPRESSED
WITH REGARD TO THE COUNTRY AND PEOPLE OF VIETNAM ARE AN
EXPRESSION OF THE PROFOUND FEELINGS OF THE SRI LANKAN PEOPLE
WHO HAVE ALWAYS STOOD BY THE SIDE OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE
IN OUR JUST STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM AND NATIONAL
REUNIFICATION. ON THIS SOLEMN OCCASION, ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS
ON BEHALF OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR THIS
PRECIOUS SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA.

14. WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE MEETINGS AND TALKS WITH
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PRESIDENT J.R. JAYEWARDENE, PRIME MINISTEMPREMADASA AND
OTHER LEADERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA, SO AS TO HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON
QUESTIONS REGARDING OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AS WELL AS ON
INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

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15. FROM THE FIRST DAYS OF ITS INDEPENDENCE, SRI LANKA HAS PURSUED A POLICY AIMED AT DEFENDING PEACE AND SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF VARIOUS PEOPLES. AS ONE OF THE INITIATORS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT SRI LANKA HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THE AFRO-ASIAN CONFERENCE IN BANDUNG; AND NOW AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, SRI LANKA IS ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE COLOMBOCONFERENCE, MARKING A NEW DEVELOPMENT OF OUR MOVEMENT. THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AS WELL AS THE OTHER ASIAN, AFRICAN AND LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLES HIGHLY APPRECIATE THIS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA.

16. AFTER SECURING COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE AND REUNIFICATION, WE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, HAVE EMBARKED ON THE TREMENDOUS AND DIFFICULT TASKS OF REHABILITATING AND DEVELOPING THE ECONOMY DEVELOPING CULTURE, STABILIZING AND IMPROVING THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE PEOPLE AND BUILDING A NEW SOCIALIST VIET NAM, A PROSPEROUS, HAPPY AND CIVILISED VIET NAM WITH ABUNDANT MATERIAL LIFE, A HIGH HAPPY AND FINE CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL LIFE.

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17. FOR THIS PURPOSE, WE REPLY MAINLY ON OUR OWN STRENGTH, MOBILIZING ALL FORCES OF OUR NATION AND ALL RESOURCES OF OUR COUNTRY; AT THE SAME TIME, WE STRIVE TO SECURE FRIENDLY AND CO-OPERATIVE RELATIONS WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, THE NON-ALIGNED AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD.

18. THE DEFENCE OF WORLD PEACE, THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION CONSTITUTE THE PRESSING DEMAND OF THE WORLD SITUATION TODAY, AT THE SAME TIME, THEY ARE THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES OF THE FOREIGN POLICY, OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. IN PURSUANCE OF THIS POLICY FROM THE BEGINNING, THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HAS TAKEN TO STRENGTHENING ITS RELATIONS WITH SOUTHEAST ASIAN

COUNTRIES IN KEEPING WITH THE 4-POINT POLICY THAT HAS BEEN WIDELY WELCOMED BY WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. NOW WE ARE DOING OUR UTMOST TO SOLVE, IN A SENSIBLE AND REASONABLE WAY, QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN VIETNAM AND KAMPUCHEA, FOLLOWING THE FEBRUARY 5, 1978, STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WE ARE DEEPLY CONVINCED THAT IN THIS QUESTION FINALLY JUSTICE WILL PREVAIL, THE LEGITIMATE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE VIETNAMESE AND KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE WILL PREVAIL AND THE DESIRE OF VARIOUS PEOPLES IN THE WORLD WILL COME TRUE.

19. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE DEEPLY ROOTED FROM THE CULTURAL CURRENTS IN HISTORY AND HAVE ALWAYS HAD RELATIONS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP. OUR TWO PEOPLES HAVE SUPPORTED AND ENCOURAGED EACH OTHER IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE COLONIAL RULE FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. THE SRI LANKA PEOPLE HAVE STOOD BY OUR SIDE IN OUR RESISTANCE WAR, FOR INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM, AGAINST FOREIGN AGGRESSION. AFTER THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WON COMPLETE VICTORY, SRI LANKA HAS,

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TOGETHER WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, STRUGGLED FOR THE LEGITIMATE SEAT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AT THE UNITED NATIONS HAS ACTIVELY SPONSORED THE UN RESOLUTION ON AID TO VIETNAM'S POST-WAR CONSTRUCTION AND THE CREATION OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES' FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF VIETNAM, LAOS IN HEALING THE WOUNDS OF WAR. BEING BOTH MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT OF WHICH SRI LANKA IS THE CHAIRMAN AND VIETNAM A MEMBER OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU, OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE STRIVING IN OUR INTERNATIONAL TO CONTRIBUTE DEFENCE OF WORLD PEACE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION, TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, NEOCOLONIALISM, AND RACISM, FOR PEACE, NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY, AND SOCIAL PROGRESS. IN THIS SPIRIT, THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ARE FIRMLY CONFIDENT THAT THE JUST CAUSE OF VARIOUS PEOPLES, PRIMARILY OF THE PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB PEOPLES IN THE MIDDLE AND NEAR EAST, OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA, AZANIA AND SOUTHERN AFRICA WILL WIN FINAL VICTORY.

20. WITH THE FULL CONVICTION IN THE EXPANSION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN VIETNAM AND SRI LANKA, MAY I PROPOSE A TOAST TO THE UNFADING CONSOLIDATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN VIETNAM AND SRI LANKA."

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